



## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

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January 21, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors  
County of Los Angeles  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT  
TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES FOR A GRANT TO THE  
SOCIAL AND PUBLIC ART RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE GREAT WALL OF  
LOS ANGELES PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT  
(THIRD DISTRICT)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$181,500 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the City of Los Angeles for a grant to the Social and Public Art Resource Center for the purchase and installation of a pedestrian bridge across the Tujunga Wash in the San Fernando Valley to serve as a viewing platform for the Great Wall of Los Angeles Mural.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find that the proposed Great Wall of Los Angeles Pedestrian Bridge Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because the Project consists of replacement of existing structures involving negligible or no expansion of the existing use and for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the Project.
2. Allocate \$181,500 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the City of Los Angeles for a grant to the Social and Public Art Resource Center for the Great Wall of Los Angeles Pedestrian Bridge Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant for the Great Wall of Los Angeles Pedestrian Bridge Project in the amount of \$181,500 after the City of Los Angeles assigns its right to apply for the funds to the Social and Public Art Resource Center and if applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$181,500 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the City of Los Angeles (City) for a grant to the Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) for the Great Wall of Los Angeles Pedestrian Bridge Project (Project).

The proposed Project consists of the purchase and installation of a replacement pedestrian bridge over the Tujunga Wash tributary of the Los Angeles River in the San Fernando Valley. The bridge will restore pedestrian access across the Tujunga Wash and will include educational elements to serve as a viewing station and interpretive center for the Tujunga Wash as well as the existing Great Wall of Los Angeles Mural (Mural). The Mural is a half-mile long pictorial representation of California history from prehistoric times to the 1950s. Mural development was achieved through employment of over 400 youth and their families beginning in 1974 and lasting over the course of five summers. The Mural, which receives thousands of visitors each year, is located on the west wall of the Tujunga Wash and can currently be seen from Coldwater Canyon Avenue between Burbank Boulevard and Oxnard Street.

The overall Project cost is estimated at \$1,345,143. The recommended \$181,500 of Cities Excess Funds will be supplemented by \$466,300 from California Cultural Historical Endowment, \$350,636 from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and \$346,707 from the City. The City, which is a designated recipient of Cities Excess Funds under the 1996 Proposition, will assign its right to apply for the recommended \$181,500 to the SPARC for the Project.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD), be authorized to award a grant after the City assigns its right to apply for the funds to the SPARC and when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the Project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the Project, if applicable, and to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by enhancing recreational opportunities along the Tujunga Wash in the Third Supervisorial District.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of \$181,500 is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial

District portion of RPOSD Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The SPARC has met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Cities Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District for Cities projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award a grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the Project. The City is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the CEQA according to Section 15302(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 2(a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project consists of replacement of existing structures involving negligible or no expansion of the existing use.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Grant Project Agreement (Agreement) will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD but are required so that the SPARC may proceed with the Project in the Third Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division; and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", with a stylized flourish at the end.

RUSS GUINEY  
Director

RG:JB:WRO

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors